

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend Claims 1, 2, 7, 13, and 20 as follows.

1. (Currently Amended) An image forming apparatus comprising:
 - an opening and closing member being openable and closable;
 - an ~~exchanging~~ exchangeable member detachably attachable to a body of said image forming apparatus and including a developer container for containing developer;
 - developer amount detecting means for detecting an amount of the developer contained in said developer container;
 - a memory ~~for storing~~ configured to store information concerning the amount of the developer detected by said detecting means;
 - control means for causing said detecting means to perform a detection operation for the developer a plurality of times, performing a confirmation process for confirming a result of said detection operation to confirm a detection result, and updating the information stored in said memory after confirming the detection result; and
 - output means for outputting the information stored in said memory,wherein said output means outputs the information concerning the amount of the developer until the detection result is confirmed by the confirmation process from a timing after power from a power source of said apparatus is inputted, or after said exchangeable member is loaded or after said opening and closing member is closed, and outputs the updated information after the detection result is confirmed.

2. (Currently Amended) An image forming apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising an agitating member configured and positioned to agitate ~~for agitating~~ the developer, and wherein said confirmation process is performed using the amount of developer obtained by

causing said agitating member to perform a rotation operation a plurality of times, and causing said developer amount detecting means to perform a detection operation at a timing in accordance with said rotation operation of said agitating member.

3. (Cancelled)

4. (Cancelled)

5. (Previously Amended) An image forming apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising a display, wherein the information outputted from said output means is indicated on said display.

6. (Original) An image forming apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said apparatus can communicate with an electronic apparatus having a display, and said output means outputs the information to the electronic apparatus.

7. (Currently Amended) An image forming apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising a video controller configured to develop ~~for developing~~ image data transmitted from an external apparatus and producing an image signal, wherein said output means is provided in said video controller.

8. (Previously Amended) An image forming apparatus according to claim 7, further comprising comparing means for comparing the information concerning the amount of developer

stored in said memory with the information concerning the amount of developer to be detected by said detecting means, wherein said comparing means is provided in said video controller.

9. (Previously Amended) An image forming apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the information concerning the amount of developer is remaining developer amount information.

10. (Previously Amended) An image forming apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the information concerning the amount of developer is information indicating that a remaining developer amount is less than a predetermined amount.

11. (Previously Amended) An image forming apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the information concerning the amount of developer is information indicating that no developer remains.

12. (Previously Amended) An image forming apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the information concerning the amount of developer is information indicating that a remaining developer amount is less than a predetermined amount and information indicating that no developer remains.

13. (Currently Amended) An image forming apparatus comprising:
a developer container ~~for containing~~ configured to contain developer;
developer amount detecting means for detecting an amount of the developer contained in said developer container;

a memory ~~for storing~~ configured to store information concerning the amount of the developer detected by said detecting means;

control means for updating the information concerning the amount of the developer stored in said memory in accordance with a detection result of a detection operation of said detecting means; and

output means for outputting the information stored in said memory,

wherein said output means outputs ~~the smaller~~ one of the information concerning the amount of the developer stored in said memory and the information concerning the amount of the developer obtained from the detection result of said detecting means, the developer amount indicated by the output one of the memory-stored information and the detection-result information being smaller than the developer amount indicated by the other of the memory-stored information and the detection-result information, and

wherein said control means does not update the information concerning the amount of the developer stored in said memory when the amount indicated by the information concerning the amount of the developer obtained from the detection result of said detecting means is larger than the amount indicated by the information concerning the amount of the developer stored in said memory.

14. (Previously Amended) An image forming apparatus according to claim 13, wherein said output means outputs the information concerning the amount of the developer stored in said memory until a detection result of said detecting means is confirmed.

15. (Previously Amended) An image forming apparatus according to claim 13, wherein said output means outputs the information concerning the amount of the developer stored in said memory immediately after power from a power source of said apparatus is inputted thereinto.

16. (Previously Amended) An image forming apparatus according to claim 13, wherein at least said developer container is detachably attachable to said apparatus, and said output means outputs the information concerning the amount of the developer stored in said memory immediately after said developer container is inserted in said apparatus.

17. (Cancelled)

18. (Previously Amended) An image forming apparatus according to claim 13, further comprising a display, wherein the information concerning the amount of the developer outputted from said output means is indicated on said display.

19. (Previously Amended) An image forming apparatus according to claim 13, wherein said apparatus can communicate with an electronic apparatus having a display, and said output means outputs the information concerning the amount of the developer to the electronic apparatus.

20. (Currently Amended) An image forming apparatus according to claim 13, further comprising a video controller configured to develop ~~for developing~~ image data transmitted from an external apparatus and producing an image signal, wherein said output means is provided in said video controller.

21. (Currently Amended) An image forming apparatus according to claim 20, further comprising comparing means for comparing the information concerning the amount of the developer stored in said memory with the information concerning the amount of the developer to be detected by said detecting means, wherein said comparing means is provided in said video controller.

22. (Cancelled)

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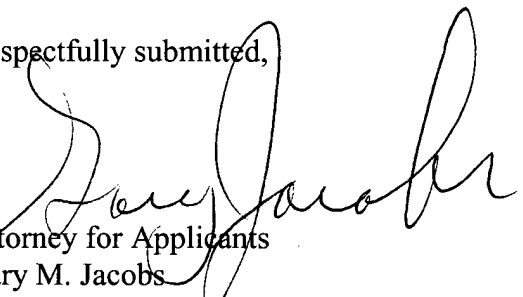
REMARKS

Claims 1, 2, 5-16, and 18-21 are pending. Claims 1, 2, 7, 13, and 20 have been amended.

Consideration and an early allowance are respectfully solicited.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our Washington, D.C. office by telephone at (202) 530-1010. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below-listed address.

Respectfully submitted,



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